

Message Text

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46

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 EB-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 AID-05

IGA-02 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SP-02 /038 W

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FM AMEMBASSY DOHA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1210

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

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DEPT PASS TREASURY FOR ASST SECY PARSKY

DEPT FOR NEA/ARP

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR EAID US QA

SUBJ: BROADENING COUNTRY-FINANCED TECHNICAL COOPERATION: VISIT
OF SECRETARY SIMON

REF: STATE 17924, STATE 17925, KUWAIT 0389, DOHA 0007, DOHA
0090

1. DOHA 0090 SUGGESTING THAT SECRETARY SIMON VISIT QATAR IN
CONNECTION WITH POSSIBLE SIGNING OF REIMBURSABLE TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT TRANSMITTED BEFORE STATE REFTELS PROPOSING
VISIT OF BERGER TEAM RECEIVED.

2. EMBASSY VIEW THAT VISIT OF TOP LEVEL USG OFFICIAL ESSENTIAL
TO SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF SUCH AGREEMENT STILL STANDS (DOHA
0007). HOWEVER, WE WOULD LIKE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF BERGER TEAM'S
PRESENCE IN AREA AND IT OCCURS TO US THAT TEAM COULD VISIT DOHA
AND PREPARE AGREEMENT; THEN SECRETARY SIMON COULD MAKE BRIEF
APPEARANCE HERE TO SIGN. THIS SCENARIO WOULD HAVE DOUBLE AD-
VANTAGE OF BRINGING TOP LEVEL US OFFICIAL TO QATAR WITH SOME
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ASSURANCE THAT VISIT WOULD PRODUCE BOTH ATMOSPHERIC AND SUB-

STANTIVE ACCOMPLISHMENT.

3. IT IS IMPORTANT FOR US TO KNOW WHETHER BERGER TEAM WOULD HAVE AUTHORITY TO DRAFT VERY GENERAL TECHNICAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT WHICH COMMITS NO ONE TO ANYTHING, BUT WHICH COULD BE BASIS FOR MORE SPECIFIC SUBSIDIARY AGREEMENTS AT LATER DATE. THIS GENERAL NONCOMMITTAL AGREEMENT FORMAT HAS BEEN USED SUCCESSFULLY HERE BY UK AND FRANCE, WHICH SIGNED SUCH AGREEMENTS DURING MINISTERIAL-LEVEL VISITS TO QATAR OVER PAST YEAR. TEAM COULD, OF COURSE, EXPLORE MORE SPECIFIC POSSIBILITIES, BUT CHANCES FOR SIGNING NONCOMMITTAL-TYPE PACT MUCH BETTER.

4. SPECIFICALLY RE TIMING OF BERGER TEAM VISIT, ANYTIME AFTER MID-FEBRUARY WOULD BE CONVENIENT. TEAM SHOULD BE AWARE THAT THERE IS NO FORMAL PLANNING OR DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION WITHIN GOQ, AND THERE ARE ONLY A BARE HANDFUL OF OFFICIALS WHO HAVE EVEN RUDIMENTARY UNDERSTANDING REQUIRED TO INTERACT EFFECTIVELY WITH TEAM. BECAUSE OF THIS, TEAM SHOULD PLAN TO SPEND ONE WEEK MAXIMUM IN DOHA.

5. I WOULD HOPE THAT WE COULD PUT POSSIBLE SIMON AND BERGER TEAM VISITS TOGETHER, SINCE RESULT COULD BE SIGNIFICANT ADVANCE IN US-GOQ BILATERAL RELATIONS. PLEASE ADVISE.
PAGANELLI

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